

# Fracht News

**Fracht News Now Offers More!**

Fracht News contains the same great ocean freight news, but now also includes **Air freight & Rail freight.**



## LOGISTICS MARKET REPORT

### Global Market



OCEAN FREIGHT



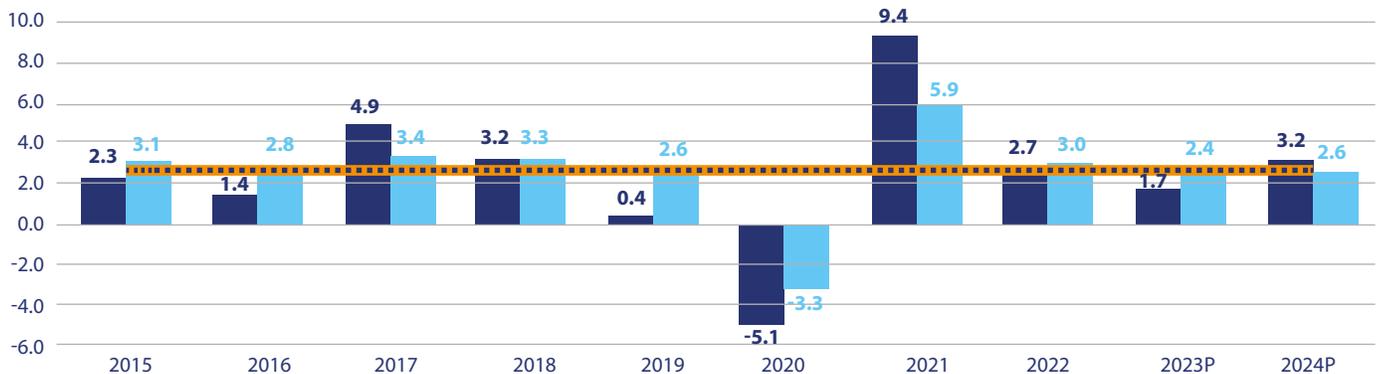
# Global Trade Growth to Slow Down in 2023: WTO

“World Trade Organization (WTO) economists said in a new forecast that global trade growth in 2023 is still expected to be subpar despite a slight upgrade to GDP projections since last fall. In fact, weighed down by the effects of the war in Ukraine,

high inflation, tighter monetary policy and financial market uncertainty, the volume of world merchandise trade is expected to grow by 1.7% this year, following 2.7% growth in 2022, a smaller-than-expected increase that was pulled down by a sharp slump in the fourth quarter.”

### WORLD MERCHANDISE TRADE VOLUME AND GDP GROWTH, 2015-2024

ANNUAL % CHANGE



■ Merchandise trade volume growth  
■ Real GDP growth at market exchange rates  
— Average trade growth 2010-2022  
- - - Average GDP growth 2010-2022  
**Note:** 2023 and 2024 are projections

Source:

Karalis, T. (2023, April 11). *Global Trade Growth to slow down in 2023: WTO*. Container News. <https://container-news.com/global-trade-growth-to-slow-down-in-2023-wto/>



## 20-Foot Reefer Containers Discontinued

“Due to changing global trade dynamics, the supply of 20-foot refrigerated containers has become severely limited in the last several years. With the ongoing lack of equipment availability impacting the velocity of cargo movement, MLL has made the decision that we will no longer accept bookings for 20-foot reefers. With immediate effect, all refrigerated bookings must be made for 40-foot equipment.”

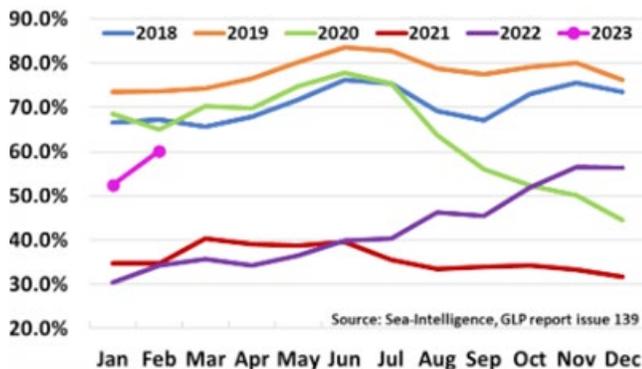
Source:  
Maersk advisory

## Sharp M/M Increase in Schedule Reliability in February 2023

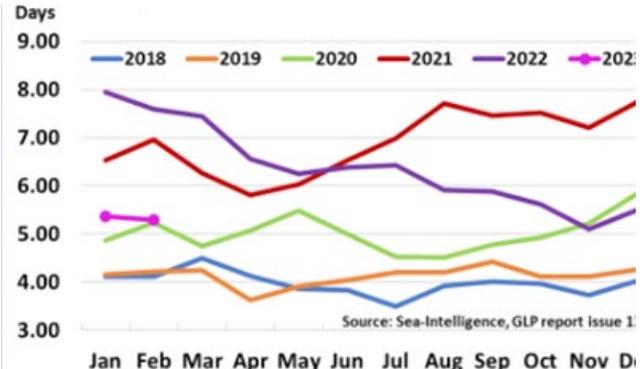
“Global schedule reliability increased sharply by 7.7 percentage points M/M in February 2023, reaching 60.2%. On a Y/Y level, schedule reliability was a staggering 26.0 percentage points higher. The average delay for LATE vessel arrivals also decreased,

dropping by -0.07 days M/M in February 2023 to 5.29 days, and was down -2.30 days Y/Y. In relative terms, the average schedule delay for LATE vessel arrivals is now closer to the 2019 level than to the highs of 2021-2022.”

GLOBAL SCHEDULE RELIABILITY



GLOBAL AVERAGE DELAYS FOR LATE VESSEL ARRIVALS



Author: Alan Murphy, CEO, Sea-Intelligence

Source:  
Madsen, N. H. (2023, April 4). Sharp M/M increase in schedule reliability in February 2023. Sea.  
<https://www.sea-intelligence.com/197>



# Air Cargo Demand Drops Again

## Volumes still ahead of Pre pandemic levels

**"A**ir cargo demand slipped again in February but exceeded pre-pandemic levels for the first time in eight months.

The latest statistics from IATA show that demand in February fell 7.5% year on year in cargo tonne km (CTKs).

However, CTKs for the month were up 2.9% compared with February 2019 levels. The last time demand beat pre-pandemic levels was June of last year. Also, the decline was lower than the 14.9% year-on-year decline recorded in January and the 15.3% fall in December. Cargo load factors for the month were down 7.9 percentage points compared with last year at 45.6% as capacity increased by 8.6%.

The increase in capacity reflects the addition of belly capacity as the passenger side of the business continues to recover.

"International belly capacity grew by 57% in February year-over-year, reaching 75.1% of the 2019 (pre-pandemic) capacity," IATA said.

IATA director general Willie Walsh said: "The story of air cargo in February is one of slowing declines. Year-on-year demand fell by 7.5%. That's half the rate of decline experienced in January.

"This shifting of gears was sufficient to boost the overall industry into positive territory (+2.9%) compared to pre-pandemic levels."

**Source:**

Brett, D. (2023, April 4). *Air cargo demand slides again but beats pre-pandemic levels*. Air Cargo News, from <https://www.aircargonews.net/business/statistics/air-cargo-demand-slides-again-but-beats-pre-pandemic-levels/>

## Air Cargo Market Yield Versus Weight Tracker

**T**he Champ Market Analytics Air Cargo Market Tracker is a useful tool that provides insight into the monthly trends in demand and yields in the air freight industry. You can access the chart using the link below.

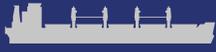


**Access Chart Here:**

<https://www.aircargonews.net/data-hub/champ-cargo-systems-air-cargo-market-tracker/>



## North American Market



OCEAN FREIGHT



### USA

## West Coast Ports Shutdown Adds to Supply Chain Woes

“According to the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA), starting from 7 April evening a significant number of workers at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach – including cargo loading and unloading operators – did not report to work. The PMA, which represents employers, said the action effectively shut down the ports.”

“The ILWU has denied the allegation, stating that the work slowdown was due to workers attending a membership meeting and observing the Good Friday holiday.”

“The ILWU and PMA recently announced that they had reached a tentative agreement on key negotiation sticking points and were committed to resolving the contract matter expeditiously.”

**Source:**

Bruno, M. (2023, April 11). *West Coast ports shutdown adds to supply chain woes*. Port Technology International <https://www.porttechnology.org/news/west-coast-ports-shutdown-adds-to-supply-chain-woes/>

## MSC Joins Carriers Ending Demurrage Billing When U.S. Terminals are Closed

“Mediterranean Shipping Co. has joined a growing list of ocean carriers that will cease charging container detention and demurrage fees to consignees on days a US marine terminal is closed.”

“In a customer advisory earlier this week, MSC said it “will not assess demurrage, detention, or per diem charges for any day in which a terminal is closed due to holidays, weekends, or other port closure events.”The carrier specified in the advisory that working days can include weekends or holidays if a terminal is open and operational.”

**Source:**

Johnson, E. (2023, March 30). *MSC joins carriers ending demurrage billing when US terminals are closed*. Journal of Commerce. [https://www.joc.com/article/msc-joins-carriers-ending-demurrage-billing-when-us-terminals-are-closed\\_20230330.html?utm\\_source=Eloqua&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=CL\\_JOC+Daily+3%2F31%2F23+Nonsubscriber\\_PC015255\\_e-production\\_E-154337\\_AP\\_0331\\_0617](https://www.joc.com/article/msc-joins-carriers-ending-demurrage-billing-when-us-terminals-are-closed_20230330.html?utm_source=Eloqua&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CL_JOC+Daily+3%2F31%2F23+Nonsubscriber_PC015255_e-production_E-154337_AP_0331_0617)

## Shippers Brace for Freight Rate and BAF Increase Onslaught

“A definite end to rock-bottom freight rates could be in sight, as carriers take advantage of tight capacity management to launch rate restoration programs across their networks in the next few weeks. Moreover, shippers can expect an increase in bunker surcharges, as the shipping lines ramp up BAFs to mitigate the impact of higher fuel costs.

The ocean carriers are preparing to unleash a barrage of GRIs this spring, in order to shore-up freight rates ahead of the peak season, and Hapag-Lloyd has led the charge with a shock \$1,000 per 40ft increase on shipments from Asia to the US from 1 May.

In fact, to mitigate the weak demand, carriers are planning to blank up to 50 head haul sailings from Asia to the US east and west coasts this month.”

**Source:**

Wackett, M. (2023, April 4). *Shippers brace for freight rate and BAF increase onslaught*. The Loadstar. <https://theloadstar.com/shippers-brace-for-freight-rate-and-baf-increase-onslaught/>



## MEXICO

# Sea Freight Cargo Movement Grows in Mazatlan

**First quarter of 2023 projects 30 thousand vehicles imported by the port**

“The maritime port movement through the port of Mazatlan is increasing significantly, since in the first quarter of 2023 it grew 20 percent compared to the same period last year.

Mazatlan Terminal Administration estimated that in the first quarter of 2023 there will be 30 thousand vehicles imported through the port.

The director of the National Port System Administration, Mariel Aquileo Ancona Infazón, said that in addition to the arrival of cruise ships, the import of vehicles has increased, as well as steel cargo.

He commented that this year the importation of vehicles has increased and that the mobilization of more than 150 thousand cars of different brands is expected.

“In these three months we have taken out 5 to 6 times more than what we had last year, right now we should have approximately 30 thousand cars as of March 31 that have arrived from imports and we have another 13 ships with 30 thousand vehicles for this month of April”, he said.

Ancona Infazón detailed that the import vehicles arriving via sea to Mazatlan are from companies such as Chirey, General Motors and MG Motors, in most cases from here they are distributed via rail or land to different cities in the country.

“A ship with 20 thousand tons of steel is going to arrive, within all these, a ship with 5 thousand 100 cars is going to arrive at the same time, it is the largest that there is and that has arrived to Mazatlan. It should occupy us that we have increased significantly here, cruise ships, import cars, cargo, ferries that are increasing a lot, every day they carry more people and more cargo”, he said.”

**Source:**

Toledo, M. (2023, April 2). *Crece Movimiento de Carga Marítima en Mazatlán*. El Sol de Mazatlán | Noticias Locales, Policiacas, sobre México, Sinaloa y el Mundo. <https://www.elsoldemazatlan.com.mx/local/crece-movimiento-de-carga-maritima-en-mazatlan-9858049.html>

# Maritime Highways to Topolobampo to be Established

“The General Coordination of Ports and Merchant Marine is seeking to create three maritime highway routes to improve grain exports from Topolobampo to other Mexican ports, said Marisa Abarca Hernandez, Director of Ports in Mexico.

She indicated that mobilization through cabotage will make the commercialization of agricultural products cheaper, as they will also provide incentives such as a 50 percent reduction in the cost of maritime transportation.

“Since two years ago, we took up again the priority project of the coordination, which is the promotion of cabotage and short distance maritime transport, in order to promote this cabotage traffic, which is more than anything else to move merchandise and passengers between Mexican ports, For us the port of Topolobampo is a very important place, it is one of our ports of promise because for a port to be successful it has to be close to a center, where the goods are generated, so Topolobampo is an area of strategic importance for our country, Sinaloa is one of the most important states in the Republic, the granary of Mexico”, he emphasized.

In addition, he indicated that cabotage as it should be seen a strategy to improve marketing through the ports of Mexico and therefore are working on a program is called “Maritime Roads” in which it seeks to encourage the Mexican fleet.

“We are offering in some ports up to 50 percent discount on the use of port infrastructure to encourage new routes to maritime transport, it is more profitable, the more cargo volume we have, then the grains normally move by thousands of tons,” he added.

In Mexico, 9 percent of the cargo that moves through ports is grain, in the 118 ports in the country, the most important are 24, which are those that have integrated port administrations (ASIPONAS). Of the universe of ports in Mexico that are located in 11 thousand kilometers of coastline, those on the Pacific, such as Manzanillo, Lázaro Cárdenas, Mazatlán, Topolobampo and Guaymas are the ones that would be considered for the first three “maritime highways”.

**Source:**

García, E. (n.d.). *Establecerán Carreteras Marítimas hacia Topolobampo*. Luz Noticias. <https://www.luznoticias.mx/2023-03-08/agro/estableceran-carreteras-maritimas-hacia-topolobampo/158374>

# FRACHT MEXICO OPENING!

Fracht Mexico began operations in 2021. The Grand opening was held on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mexico is the 15<sup>th</sup> largest economy worldwide, 2<sup>nd</sup> largest in Latin America.



AIR FREIGHT

## American Airline Increases Wide Body Capacity

### Peak season preparation for U.S. demand

**A**merican Airlines Cargo will benefit from expanded capacity this summer following American Airlines' plans to boost monthly widebody flights by more than 400, compared to summer 2022.

As the carrier prepares for the peak season, new routes and frequencies starting as early as this spring will service routes between the US and Europe, Latin America, and Asia Pacific. At the height of the summer peak, the airline will operate more than 160 international widebody flights per day.

Out of Europe, American will offer a new service from Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport and a returning service from Frankfurt Airport to Charlotte Douglas International Airport, as well as from London Heathrow Airport to Seattle Tacoma International Airport – all on Boeing B777-200 widebody aircraft.

The carrier will also have increased frequencies for its existing operations out of Rome-Fiumicino International Airport to Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport and John F. Kennedy International Airport, and out of Heathrow to Charlotte Douglas International and Los Angeles International.

In the month of July alone, American will operate more than 4,100 widebody flights between the US and Europe."

**Source:**

Jeffrey, R. (2023, April 11). *American Airlines Cargo looks ahead to expanded widebody capacity*. Air Cargo News. <https://www.aircargonews.net/airlines/american-airlines-cargo-looks-ahead-to-expanded-widebody-capacity/>

# Carriers Watch Mexico Growth in Air Freight Volumes

## Climbing numbers demonstrate good demand

“Unlike many of their international counterparts, Mexican airports have continued to process growing cargo volumes – and operators predict further expansion. Throughput at Mexican airports climbed 5.2% in the first two months of this year, over the same period in 2022. Domestic volumes increased 1%, while international traffic rose 7.3%.

Notwithstanding its chronic congestion, Benito Juarez Airport, Mexico City’s main gateway, has led the charge as domestic volumes rose 7.4% and international traffic surged 13.6%.

Interestingly, Felipe Angeles International, the designated future cargo gateway for the capital (international cargo operations are mandated to shift from Benito Juarez before 7 July) reported no cargo volume for the period.”

**Source:**

Putzger, I. (2023, April 11). *Carriers watch as Mexico’s airfreight volumes continue to grow. The Loadstar*. Retrieved April 25, 2023, from: <https://theloadstar.com/carriers-watch-as-mexicos-airfreight-volumes-continue-to-grow/>

### Latin American Market



OCEAN FREIGHT

## Hapag-Lloyd Launching New Latin America Service

“The WCSA Feeder 4 (WS4) service is set to commence in June and vessels will call the following port rotation: Callao (Peru) – Iquique (Chile) – Puerto Angamos (Chile) – Arica (Chile) – Callao (Peru). Hapag-Lloyd said the first box ship deployed on the new rotation will be the 2023-built Cape Bruno, which is expected to arrive at Callao port on 5 June.”

It is expected that the new service will provide stronger schedule reliability, and extended port coverage, while the service is expected to replace transshipments from San Antonio in Chile to Callao.”

**Source:**

Labrut, M. (2023, April 10). *Hapag-Lloyd Launching New Latin America Service*. Seatrade Maritime. <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/containers/hapag-lloyd-launching-new-latin-america-service>

## New U.S. Container Line Oceanus Launches First Service

“Oceanus Line is based in Coral Gables, Florida, is entering the Gulf market, with its Florida Gulf Express (FGX) service, which started in the last week of March. With inaugural calls on 26 March and 29 March, respectively, at Seaport Manatee and Port Freeport, Oceanus Line’s 1,740 teu-X-Press Cotopaxi, launched import and export opportunities via a pair of fast-growing, uncongested US Gulf gateways, with inland rail and truck reach encompassing Southeast, Northeast, Southwest and Midwest markets. Oceanus Line’s FGX service, initially fortnightly, operates counterclockwise from Cartagena, Colombia, to Seaport Manatee, then across the Gulf of Mexico to Port Freeport, before heading south to Veracruz, Mexico, and returning to Cartagena. On the inaugural voyage, the vessel called at the Mexican port of Tuxpan on its way north from Colombia.”

**Source:**

Labrut, M. (2023, April 11). *New Us Container Line Oceanus Launches First Service*. Seatrade Maritime. <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/containers/new-us-container-line-oceanus-launches-first-service>



## Port congestions in main Latam countries

PORT	DWELL TIME (DAYS)
<b>BRAZIL</b>	
PARANAGUA	8
NAVEGANTES	3
VITORIA	6
<b>CHILE</b>	
SAN VICENTE	19
SAN ANTONIO	1
<b>MEXICO</b>	
MANZANILLO	2
ENSENADA	2
<b>PARAGUAY</b>	
ASUNCIÓN	4
<b>COSTA RICA</b>	
PUERTO LIMON	2
<b>ARGENTINA</b>	
ROSARIO	3



# Avianca Cargo Expands U.S. Connections

## Weekly flights from Quito to Los Angeles

“Avianca Cargo will add new freighter flights between Quito and new destination Los Angeles as it targets growing demand between Ecuador and North America.

The flight will operate twice per week and also include a stop at Bogotá. Currently, 80% of Avianca’s cargo volumes from Ecuador are destined for North America.

“[The service] will allow [Avianca] to diversify the ports of entry of flowers to North America, adding this destination to Miami as an already existing point and through which it sent nearly

18,000 tons in around 300 flights operated from Ecuador and Colombia in the recent season of Valentine’s Day,” said airport operator Quiport.

Other products that will be transported on the service include fruits and fish, which represent around 20% of the cargo exported from Ecuador.”

**Source:**

Brett, D. (2023, April 18). *Avianca cargo expands US connections with Los Angeles freighter flights*. Air Cargo News. Retrieved April 25, 2023, from <https://www.aircargonews.net/airlines/freighter-operator/avianca-cargo-expands-us-connections-with-los-angeles-freighter-flights/>

# Menzies Adds Costa Rica and Chile Services

## Aviation service provider expands in region

“Menzies Aviation is continuing its expansion in Latin America with new ground and air cargo services in Costa Rica and Chile.

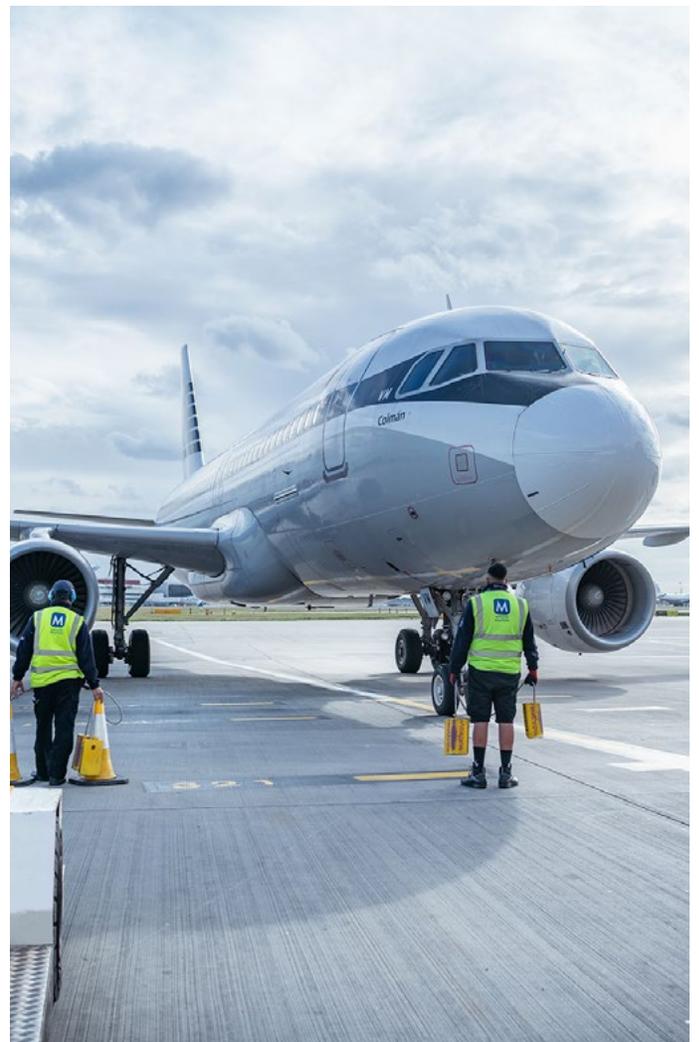
In Costa Rica, the recently acquired Menzies has been awarded licenses to operate ground services at Juan Santamaría International Airport (SJO), the country’s largest airport and primary airport for international travellers, and at Liberia Guanacaste Airport (LIR).

Additionally, Menzies is expanding its portfolio at SJO with a cargo facility in partnership with Terminales Unidas (TUSA). Menzies said it is the “only aviation services provider operating in SJO Costa Rica that offers the full suite of ground, air cargo, and security services, and is focused on developing and growing all three services at airports across the country”.

Meanwhile in Chile, following the acquisition of a controlling stake in Agunsa Aviation Services last year, Menzies Agunsa has now secured permits which enables it to provide air cargo services to the market.”

**Source:**

Jeffrey, R. (2023, March 27). *Menzies adds Costa Rica and Chile Air Cargo Services*. Air Cargo News. <https://www.aircargonews.net/services/ground-handler/menzies-adds-costa-rica-and-chile-air-cargo-services/>



## European Market



OCEAN FREIGHT



# Drop in Demand & Inflation

## Ocean freight market update

“Demand keeps softening. Space is available on all services. Schedule integrity improves; however, transit times need to be watched as vessels are going on slow steaming to adhere to the IMO 2023 regulations aiming to reduce fuel consumption and subsequently CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. In order to compensate the increased transit times, carriers are adding additional vessels to selected services, which in turn is increasing the operational costs. Ports and terminals in Europe are generally fluent but disruptions are possible due to a series of strikes and protests in various countries. North American ports generally are on a good operational level, but seasonal weather impacts still could impact the productivity.

Persistent inflation pressures and financial tightening stall eurozone growth. High inflation continues to undermine household purchasing power and economic growth across

Western Europe. Eurozone headline consumer price inflation eased marginally to 8.5% year on year (y/y) in February, but core inflation climbed to a record 5.6%. Rising interest rates, tightening credit, and housing market corrections will impede near-term growth. Several risks could pull the eurozone into recession, including an escalation of financial-sector stresses, sticky core inflation rates leading to extended central bank tightening, an intensification of the conflict in Ukraine, widespread declines in house prices, and spillovers from economic weakness outside the region”

**Source:**

OCEAN FREIGHT MARKET UPDATE. DHL.  
<https://www.dhl.com/content/dam/dhl/global/dhl-global-forwarding/documents/pdf/glo-dgf-ocean-market-update.pdf>

# Europe Goes from Leader to Laggard in Tackling Shipping's Climate Impact

## Climate leader, Europe must embrace science-based climate targets

“The European Union (EU) is failing to keep pace with other global players in addressing the shipping industry's contribution to climate change. While the EU has set ambitious targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, its focus has been primarily on land-based sectors, leaving shipping largely overlooked. As things stand, shipping is responsible for around 3% of global greenhouse gas emissions, and this is projected to double or even triple by 2050 unless urgent action is taken. Despite this, the EU has failed to provide a clear pathway towards decarbonizing the shipping industry. This is particularly concerning given the EU's past leadership in driving ambitious climate policies and promoting sustainable development.

One of the key issues is the EU's reluctance to engage with international shipping organizations, such as the International Maritime Organization (IMO), to set binding emissions targets. Instead, the EU has chosen to focus on regional initiatives, such as the EU Emissions Trading System and the FuelEU Maritime initiative. While these measures are certainly welcome, they are unlikely to deliver the scale of emissions reductions

needed to meet the Paris Agreement targets and keep global warming to below 1.5°C. To stay on track and lead the way in tackling shipping's climate impact, the EU must step up its efforts and engage more meaningfully with the IMO and other international partners. This will require a coordinated approach and a willingness to explore all available options, from energy efficiency measures and low-carbon fuels to carbon pricing mechanisms and regulatory incentives.

In short, the EU must recognize the urgent need to address shipping's climate impact and take bold action to secure a sustainable and low-carbon future for the industry. Failure to do so risks not only undermining the EU's credibility as a global climate leader but also jeopardizing the health of our planet and the well-being of future generations.”

**Source:**

Giunti, J. (2023, April 17). *Europe goes from leader to laggard in Tackling Shipping's climate impact*. [www.euractiv.com](https://www.euractiv.com/section/maritime/opinion/europe-goes-from-leader-to-laggard-in-tackling-shippings-climate-impact/). <https://www.euractiv.com/section/maritime/opinion/europe-goes-from-leader-to-laggard-in-tackling-shippings-climate-impact/>



## New Collapsible ULDS get EASA Approval

### Dutch-based VRR innovates new ULD solution

“The repositioning of empty containers is still a major operational and financial headache for air cargo operators, but a Dutch company reckons it has a solution. Rotterdam-based VRR has developed collapsible unit load devices (ULDs), the AAX and AAY, which have been recently approved for use by the EU Safety Agency.

Ben Lakerveld, VRR sales manager told The Loadstar the ULDs had been developed to address three large industry problems: the ULD imbalance globally; environmental objectives; and optimising storage capacity.

“Often, tradelanes are not balanced and you find that more cargo going one way than the other, resulting in empty containers to bring back or store. But when a container is collapsible and can be stacked, it is much easier and cheaper to relocate or store,” Mr Lakerveld explained.”

**Source:**

Brainstormoff. (2023, April 18). New collapsible ulds for Air and Ocean Freight Get Easa approval. The Loadstar. <https://theloadstar.com/new-collapsible-ulds-for-air-and-ocean-freight-get-easa-approval/>



## Air France-KLM and CMA CGM Activate Alliance

### Strategic partnership is launched for 10 years

“Air France-KLM and ocean shipping and logistics provider CMA CGM on Monday announced the launch of a 10-year alliance between their air cargo divisions under which they will jointly market freighter capacity and combine networks and dedicated services to increase scale and competitiveness.

The strategic partnership, which was made public in May 2022, includes Martinair Cargo, an Air France-KLM all-cargo subsidiary. It has actually been live for a month, according to the Air France-KLM Martinair Cargo website.

The companies said they had received all regulatory approvals to proceed with the deal, which aims to leverage each party’s respective strengths. Together the companies will share the space of a dozen freighters and have 14 more freighters being built.

Air France-KLM has decades of cargo experience, especially in specialized cargo such as pharmaceuticals, perishables and express consignments, established hubs in Paris and Amsterdam, and an extensive passenger network with more than 160 long-haul aircraft. CMA CGM Air Cargo brings new routes from Paris to Hong Kong and, beginning April 11, to Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates and Guangzhou, China. Tentative plans call for another freighter to begin serving Shanghai in late May.

Paris-based CMA CGM Air Cargo is a startup company that began operating in early 2022 and now owns four Airbus A330s and two large Boeing 777 freighters. It has two more 777s on order from Boeing and an order with Airbus for four all-new A350 freighters.”

**Source:**

Jeffrey, R. (2023, March 27). *Menzies adds Costa Rica and Chile Air Cargo Services*. Air Cargo News. Retrieved April 25, 2023, from: <https://www.aircargonews.net/services/ground-handler/menzies-adds-costa-rica-and-chile-air-cargo-services/>

## African & Middle Eastern Market



AIR FREIGHT



# Qatar Launches New Direct LATAM-USA Connection

## Qatar introduces weekly Bogota-Dallas direct flights

“Qatar Airways Cargo has introduced a weekly direct freighter service from Bogota, Colombia to Dallas, Texas using a Boeing B777F. The freighter departs from Bogota International Airport (El Dorado International) on Mondays and flies to Dallas Fort Worth International Airport.

The freighter offers close to 100 tonnes of cargo capacity and will be transporting perishables like flowers, fruits, vegetables and coffee, as well as live animals, machinery and other general cargo destined for Dallas Fort Worth.

Guillaume Halleux, chief officer cargo at Qatar Airways, said: “The Americas is highly important for us and we have a strong

presence in the region. Through this enhancement on the route, we are pleased to grow our existing partnership with Dallas Fort Worth International Airport.

“Our customers in DFW now benefit from a direct freighter service to uplift perishables and other cargo directly from Colombia.”

**Source:**

Jeffrey, R. (2023, April 12). *Qatar Airways Cargo Launches Direct Bogota to Dallas fort worth freighter service.* Air Cargo News. Retrieved April 25, 2023, from: <https://www.aircargonews.net/airlines/freighter-operator/qatar-airways-cargo-launches-direct-bogota-to-dallas-fort-worth-freighter-service/>

# Aero Africa Handles First Nairobi-Muscat SalamAir Freighter

## A new era for Salamair's new GSSA

“A ir cargo management group Aero Africa has successfully handled the first SalamAir direct freighter from Nairobi, Kenya to Muscat, Oman since it was appointed as the airline's cargo GSSA for Kenya. The flight took place on April 16 using an Airbus A321-200 passenger to freighter (P2F) conversion aircraft.

“This direct freighter service has been welcomed with excitement by the flower and meat exporters to Oman, thus boosting business between the two countries,” said Aero Africa.

“This successful launch is indeed a testament that Aero Africa Group is dedicated to offering African GSSA solutions and neutral value-added services to the global logistics and aviation community,” said Jade da Costa, chief commercial officer.”

**Source:**

Jeffrey, R. (2023, April 17). *Aero Africa handles first Nairobi-muscat salamair freighter.* Air Cargo News. Retrieved April 25, 2023, from: <https://www.aircargonews.net/services/gssa/aero-africa-handles-first-nairobi-muscat-salamair-freighter/>



## Asian Market



AIR FREIGHT

# Hong Kong International Retains Busiest Cargo Hub Title

### Asian airport maintains top-spot despite drop in volumes

“**H**ong Kong International Airport (HKIA) retained its position as the world’s busiest cargo airport in 2022 despite the impact of Covid restrictions, according to statistics from Airports Council International.

HKIA saw its cargo volumes fall by 16.4% year on year in 2022 to 4.2m tonnes as restrictions on crew hampered operations, particularly at combination carrier Cathay Pacific, which uses Hong Kong as its home hub.

The restrictions resulted in the carrier having to massively reduce its freighter operations in the opening months of the year. However, other airports also suffered from slower demand as volumes settled down after a surge in demand in 2021. In fact, nine out of the top 10 airports reported demand decreases in 2022 with volumes at the leading 10 hubs — representing around 27% (30.8m tonnes) of the global volumes in 2022 — down to 9.9% in 2022 year on year.”

**Source:**  
Brett, D. (2023, April 5). *Hong Kong International retains busiest cargo hub top spot*. Air Cargo News. Retrieved April 25, 2023, from: <https://www.aircargonews.net/cargo-airport/hong-kong-international-retains-busiest-cargo-hub-top-spot/>

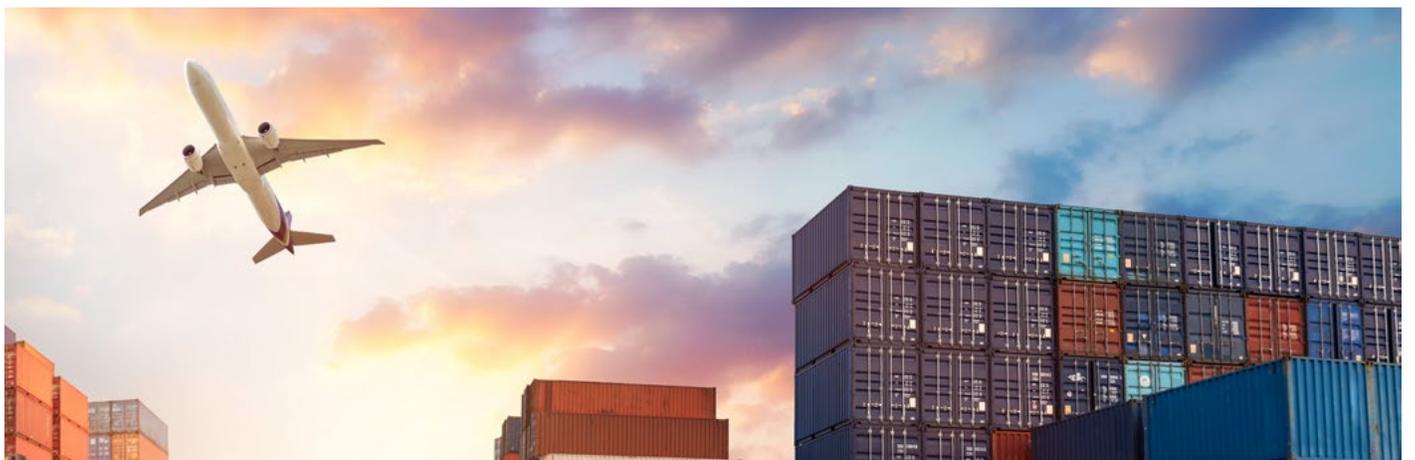
# Silkway West Launches New Weekly Flights from Houston

### 747F Carrier connects Houston to Baku Hub and Network

“**S**ilk Way West Airlines, a global cargo airline based in Baku, Azerbaijan, has announced the launch of new weekly flights to Houston starting from this week. The airline will operate the flights to George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH), one of the busiest airports in the United States. Silk Way West Airlines will also continue to operate regular flights to Chicago and Dallas, expanding its growing route network in the Americas.

“We are thrilled to launch our new weekly flights to Houston, one of the most important cargo gateways in the United States, which will provide additional capacity and faster transit times for our customers,” said Fadi Nahas, Vice President Commercial of Silk Way West Airlines. “Our growing presence in the Americas demonstrates our commitment to providing reliable and efficient cargo solutions for our customers in this region. This new route will also enhance our ability to connect customers to key markets in Central Asia and the Middle East.”

**Source:**  
*Silk way West Airlines launches regular flights to Houston*. Silk Way West Airlines. (n.d.). Retrieved April 25, 2023, from: <https://www.silkwaywest.com/press-room/news/silk-way-west-airlines-launches-regular-flights-to-houston/>



ESG MARKET UPDATES



# Partnership for Rebuilding the Largest Aircraft

## New Life for the World's Largest Aircraft: The Reconstruction of the Antonov An-225

**T**he largest airplane in the world, the Mriya An 225, is now being rebuilt after being destroyed during a Russian invasion and attack, which could present fresh challenges for engineers. This 1990-built airplane made significant contributions to the transportation sector. It will now receive a 21st-century touch before being rebuilt.

Recently, the AN-225 aircraft manufacturer revealed that design work on a brand-new AN-225 "Mriya" had already started and that the cost of building this new design would be around \$500 million.

Dmytro Kuleba, the foreign minister of Ukraine. Approximately 30% of the components can currently be employed for the envisioned second aircraft, according to the available expert opinion. The aircraft is expected to cost at least 500 million euros to produce."

If the latest, most advanced aviation system is added to the aircraft, it may be possible to decrease the crew of the new An 225 to four. This will help to reduce overall control monitoring.

This aircraft can increase its efficiency by adding the newest technologies and reducing the mechanical instruments that were previously used inside for tasks like activating hydraulics. These mechanical instruments will be replaced with electric solenoids and other devices, which will significantly reduce the weight of the aircraft and allow it to travel farther.

Since large airplanes require a large maintenance staff after being upgraded during production, this aircraft can have a shorter maintenance period thanks to its modern avionics and monitoring system.

The greatest option for re-building the aircraft will be Airbus, which is now producing the A380 and still uses the most up-to-date manufacturing techniques to give the An 225 new life."

**Source:**  
Dawal. (2023, April 17). *Airbus and the Antonov An-225: The Best Partnership for rebuilding the largest aircraft*. Jetline Marvel. <https://jetlinemarvel.net/airbus-and-the-antonov-an-225-the-best-partnership-for-rebuilding-the-largest-aircraft/?fbclid=IwAR2BxDDN9aSlh0B55R2IZyj6ycjtzs5iXK2Fh1ieKn8wurMuDqKfqCzo2Mo&mibextid=Zxz2cZ>





# Domestic Renewable Diesel Capacity Could More Than Double Through 2023

**“U.S.** production capacity for renewable diesel could more than double from current levels by the end of 2025, based on several announcements for projects that are either under construction or could start development soon.

Two factors behind growing U.S. renewable diesel capacity are rising targets for state and federal renewable fuel programs and biomass-based diesel tax credits. The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 extended the biomass-based diesel tax credits through 2024. We estimate U.S. renewable diesel production capacity was 170,000 barrels per day (b/d), or 2.6 billion gallons per year (gal/y), at the end of 2022. Although we expect some announced projects will be delayed or canceled, if all projects begin operations as scheduled, U.S. renewable diesel production capacity could reach 384,000 b/d, or 5.9 billion gal/y, by the end of 2025.”

## The most commonly used biofuels worldwide are ethanol and biodiesel.

**1. Ethanol:** Ethanol is primarily produced from corn in the United States and sugarcane in Brazil. It is commonly used as a fuel additive to gasoline to reduce emissions and improve octane ratings. In the United States, ethanol is blended with gasoline at rates of up to 10% (E10) or up to 85% (E85) in flex-fuel vehicles. Ethanol is also used as a standalone fuel in countries such as Brazil, where it is used as a replacement for gasoline.

**2. Biodiesel:** Biodiesel is produced from vegetable oils, animal fats, or recycled cooking oils. It is commonly used in diesel engines without any modifications and can be blended with petroleum diesel at varying levels, with B20 (20% biodiesel and 80% diesel) being a common blend. Biodiesel is used as a transportation fuel in many countries, including the United States and Germany.

Biogas is also becoming increasingly popular as a renewable energy source, particularly for electricity and heat production. However, its use as a transportation fuel is still relatively limited.

Overall, the use of biofuels is growing globally as countries aim to reduce their reliance on fossil fuels and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, there are still challenges related to feedstock availability, production costs, and infrastructure that need to be addressed to further increase their use.

### Source:

Troderman, J., & Shi, E. (n.d.). *Domestic renewable diesel capacity could more than double through 2025*. Homepage - U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). <https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=55399>

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